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Office of Legislative Counsel

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1. On 19 May the Senate passed S. 1805, establishing a Joint Committee on the Budget. This Committee is to be composed of members of the House and Senate Appropriations Committees, and it would have sweeping authority to examine into budget estimates, requests and other broad aspects in the budgetary field. Similar legislation has passed the Senate in previous sessions, but has always died in the House and there is no reason to think that S. 1805 will fair differently than its predecessors. The Comptroller has expressed his concern to me regarding this bill, and I have received informal indications from the Bureau of the Budget that it might be vetoed. In any event, it is not the type of legislation for which CIA can request an exemption, and if it is passed we will have to live with it.